

THE  
Pleasant Walkes  
O F  
Moore-fields.

*Being the guift of two Sisters, now  
beautified, to the continuing fame  
of this worthy City.*



Printed at London for Henry Gosson, and are  
to be sold at the Signe of the Sun  
in Pater noster Row.

1607.



To the Right Worshipfull, the  
Knights and Aldermen of this Hono-  
rable Citty of London.



Hose sweet and delightfull walks of More fields (right Worshipfull) as it seemes a Garden to this Citty, and a pleasurable place of sweet ayres for Cittizens to walke in, now made most beautiful by your good worshipships appointment, hath embol-

dened me to search for the true antiquity thereof: and furthermore to satisfie the desires of many, I haue giuen here a true light of the late glorie doone vnto the same: and withall briefly set downe a fewe notes of ancient recordes, of their beeing a kinde of morish ground in times past, and by whome, and in what maner they were brought to this beneficial vse, together with manie other Honors done to this city, If your worshipships vouchsafe to thinke vvel of my labors, I attaine my v wished hopes: So ending I commit you all to the ioy of your ovne harts.

By your Worships to be com-  
manded. Rich: Johnson.





## The pleasant walkes of Moore Fields.

*The Speakers names in this discourse, a Coun-  
trey Gentleman, and a London Citizen.*

Gentleman.

His City of London (sir) in my  
mind both for antiquity and scita-  
tion may challenge glory with a  
ny City in the World.

**T**his. Most true (sir) for, it is re-  
ported, that Brute lineally descended  
from the Demy-god Aeneas,  
son of Venus, daughter of Jupiter,  
about the yeare of the world 2855  
and 1108. before the Natiuitie of Christ, builded this cit-  
ty, and named it Treynouant. But in processe of time R.  
Lud, not onely reparied it, but also increased the same  
with faire buildings, towres and wals, and after his own  
name called it Luds towne: and by corruption of speach, it  
is now called London: which king Iveth buried at a gate  
in the West part of the City, which hee likewise built in  
the honor of his name, calling it Ludgate.

Gent. Since that time (I perceue) in every Princes  
raigne it hath bin much beautified: but of all pleasures that  
contente me, these sweet walkes of Moore Fieldes are the  
chiefest, and the causes thereof deserue much comen-  
dation.

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Citi. Whose be the worthy Aldermen and Common-counsell of London, who saing the disorder vsed in these fieldes, haue bestawed this cost, and as occasion requires intends further to beautifie the same.

Gent. In so doing, they purchase fame after Death, and much pleasure to posterity: But to what vse are these fieldes reserved?

Citi. Only for Cittizens to walke in to take the ayre, and for Merchants maides to dry clothes in, which want necessary gardens at their dwellings.

Gent. By whom was these fields giuen to the city?

Cit. Harry sir by two mayds, the only daughters to Sir William Fines, a knight of the Rhodes, in the time of Edward the Confessor: who dying, left these fieldes of Fines-berry, after his owne name to his two daughters, Mary and Katharine, who refusing the pleasures of this world, betooke themselves to a devout kind of life, and became two Nuns in the Monastery of Bedlem: wher having spent their daies in the service of God, at their death gave these aforesaid fieldes to the City of London, for an ease to the Cittizens, and a place for their seruants to dry clothes in, and likewise builded the two Crosse, the one at Bedlem gate, the other at Shoredich.

Gent. These walkes (Sir,) as it seemes, beares the fashion of a crosse, equally diuided fourre wavyes, and like wise squared about with pleasant walles, the trees thereon makes a gallant shew, and yelds unto mine eye much delight.

Citizen. They may well, for the like border of trees are not at this day in al the land again, for they be in number within these walles two hundred, fourscore, and eleauen, beside those other standing westward without, to the number of some fourre or fiftie and thirtie.

Gent. I haue heard that many of these trees doe carry proper names?

Citiz. According to the planting thereof, they doe: and

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and those which I remember so called, now stand on the the west side within these walles, the first of them at the corner of the middle walke west ward, was first of all placed by Sir Leonard Hollyday then Lord Maio; : the next on the corner north ward at the Steppes comming downe, by a Captaine, being a Gentleman of god reputacion : the third by a Citizen, and Sonne to Sir Leonard Hollyday, which standeth next to his Fathers tree. There standeth nere vnto that, a tree called the two brothers, planted by two little boyes, and sonnes to a Citizen here in London, there is likewise a tree called the three sisters, by the name of three maydens that set it, and another the three brothers : there is a tree likewise on the north west corner, which I saw set vp (called Stubs his tree) by one Christopher Stubs, one of the p̄incipal Poxters of Blackwell hall, a man well beloued, and of god credit. Many others were set vp by our Citizens, which I thinke needlesse to speake of, nor tell of the bountie they shewed to the worke-men, at the planting of these same trees.

Gent. The charges hereof shew their liberall mindes, and no doubt but this field will be maintained time out of mind in as god order as it is nowe kept, so what you Citizens meane to give glory to, neither cost nor care can be wanting, But I pray you how many Akars may this plot of ground containe ?

Citiz. Marry Sir, within the walles some ten Akars, which was so measured out, and by a Plough made leuell, as it is now, a thing that never hath binne seene before to goe so nere London.

Gent. But why are these stockes of wood here prouided, with such a huge chaine of yron lockt to the wall ?

Citiz. Onely as a punishment for those that lay any filthy thing within these fields, or make water in the same to the annoyance of those that walke therein, which euill saunders in times past haue much corrupted mans lences, and supposed to be a great nourisher of diseases.

Gent.

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Gent. That beares god reason, and the maner of this punishment I like well, and pitie it were, but it should be maintained, for it is one of the best things that ever your Cittie bestowed cost vpon.

Citiz. The cost hereof they regard not, and the more they bestow hereon, the more honour they tye vnto our Cittie, and the causers of these walkes hath deserued high commendations, making their posterities famous by these their deeds.

Gent. It saemes they intend a further grace to these fields?

Citiz. Their purpose is not fully knowne, but surely their intents are inclined to bountifull proceedings, as I heare, the building of certaine houses for shelters for maidens having their clothes lying there a drying, if at any time it should chance to raine.

Gent. All England may take example, at your London Citizens, who not onely scke for their owne bens-fites, but strive to profit others, shewing themselues good common wealths men, and as they be called the Fathers of the Cittie, so be they cherishers of the poore and succour-leste.

Citiz. If I should shew you the charitable deeds, of all our Citizens now living, as of those in times past, from one kings raigne to another, I should fill a large volume with antiquities: but I will briefly touch but onely such as concernes this our discourse of these walkes of Morefieldes, and things pertinent to the same purpose.

Gent. But I pray you shewe me sir, haue they never bin otherwise vsed?

Citi. Yes that they haue, for time is often the ouer-thower of lawdable customes: so Halles Chronicle setteth downe, that the inhabitants about London, as Islington, Hogsdon, Shoreditch and others, before the raigne of Henry the eight, had so enclosed these fields, with hedges and ditches, that neyther the young men of this Cittie might

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might shote, nor the ancient persons walke for pleasure in these fields, but that either their bowes and arrowes were taken away, or broken, or the Citizens arrested for walking, saying, that no Londoner ought to go out of the Citie, but in the hpe wayes. This so grieved the Londoners, that in the sixt yeare of King Henrie the Eight, a great number of the Citizens, assembled themselves in a morning and a Turner in a Foles coat, ran crying thorough the Citie, Shouels and spades, Shouels & spades, by which meanes followed so many people, that it was a wonder to behold, and within lesse than thre houres all the hedges about the Citie were cast downe, the ditches filled vp, and every thing made plaine, such was the quicknesse of these diligent workemen, after this the fields were never more hedged in.

Gent. The Citizens I perceive ever carried gallant mindes, and to this day (I see) they continually strive to beautifie this famous Citie, for what faire summer houses with lofie tylers and turrets are here builded in these fields, and in other places, the suburbs of the Citie, not so much for vse and profit as for shewe and pleasure, bewraying the noblenesse of their mindes.

Citiz. Many of our ancient Citizens sir haue farre more worthye dispositions, and chiesely delights in the repaireing of Hospitals, and building almes houses for the pore and therein employ their wits, spending their wealths to the common commoditie of this our Citie.

Gent. You speake but truth, for London Citizens are the Lawes mirrour for charitable giufts: but of all other stately buildings neere unto these fields, this bears the greatest shew, called Fishers folly.

Citiz. It is sir, a verie faire house indeede, large, and beautifull, incompaſt with many walkes and gardens of pleasure, builded by one Fisher, ſir of the Goldſirithes, late one of the ſix Clarkes of the Chancerie, and a Justice of peace, it hath ſince for a time bene the Earle of Oxfords place: our late Queene hath lodged

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there, and now it belongeth to Sir William Cornwallis, Gent. This house (as I haue heard) being so large and sumptuously builded by a man of no greater calling, was mockingly named *Fishers Folly*, and a time hath bene lately made of it, and others the like (not farre off builded) in this manner.

*Karkebyes Castle, and Fishers folly;*

*Spynys pleasure, and Megges glorie.*

Citiz. Inded of such like houses builded by Citizens, men will report their pleasures, but if I should speake of the true glorie of our Citizens, Gresham house, with the Royall Exchange, builded by one man: Whittington Colledge, Newgate, part of Christ church by another with diuers other monuments which I omit, as the charge of London bridge, builded at the first by two Sisters of Saint Marie Overyes, and such like: but of all other memorable deedes maintained to this day by our Citizens, there is thare which deserue immortall commendations, the Orphans Court in Guild hall, where courteous executors are presented, Christes Hospital, where fatherlesse children are well brought vp, and the prison of Bridewell where vices is iustly corrected.

Gent. Thare things in my minde that your Citizens winne heaven by, but so; what offenders is that Bridewell chiesely resettled?

Citiz. For sole persons: as vagabonds, and so; those that are obstinate, and will not liue in the feare of God, but abuse their bodies with lewd vices, as whoredome, and such like.

Gent. What place I thinke nochtirre sir to speake of in these walkes, therefore I pray you shew me of the antiquie of this Monasterie of Bedlem where these two charitable sisters were buried.

Citiz. The Monasterie (now ruined) was builded by their Father Sir William Fines the chiche owner of the rich Farme of Finesburie house, the which to this day holds

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holds p<sup>r</sup>ivilidges of god esteeme. Likewise here in Bodg<sup>m</sup> is now scituated an Hospital for the cure of distract<sup>d</sup> people, which in former times about the yeare 1246, was founded by Simon Fitz-marie, one of the Sherifffes of London, of the same house and kindred, naming it the priory of Saint Marie de Bethlem, after the elder of the two Sisters, to which King Edward the third graunted a protection, but after in the time tyme of King Henrie the 8. in the beginning of his raigne, there was one Sir Walter Gennings one of the Kings Chamber, who being distract of his wits got helpe in that place, by the meanes of that holy P<sup>r</sup>ior, in regard of which King Henrie at the supp<sup>l</sup>ication of this religious Monasterie, gave it to the Cittie for an Hospitall for that use, the Chappell whereof was taken downe in the raigne of Queen Elizabeth, and houses builded there by the Gouvernor<sup>s</sup> of Chilis Hospitall in London, and now in this place, people that be distract of wits, are by the suite of their frends received and kept, but not without chargers to their bringers in.

Gent. Here is Sir, as it seemes a burying place walled in with bricke, which surely is, the deuotion of some charitable Citizen.

Citiz. It is sir for in the yeare 1569, sir Thomas Roe, Marchant taylor, and Mayo<sup>r</sup> of this Cittie, caused to bee inclosed within this wall, about one acre of ground, being part of this Hospital of the Hospital of Bethlem, this he appointed for a burying place, as an ease for such Parishes in London, as wanteth a conuenient ground within their Parishes. The Ladie his wife was there buried (by whose perswasions he enclosed it) but himselfe boorne in London, was buried at Hackney.

Gent. But now sir, let vs returne b<sup>r</sup> the walke neare this Ditch side, where I am willing to vnderstand howe those fields came so beautified, being in times past, as I have heard, a fen or moorish kinde of ground.

Citiz. To begin first, after it was given by these two

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ggers to this Cittie: I find that in the time of William the Conquerour, it was continually in wouter, as you say, a great Fen or moore of water, stretching all along betwixt Cripple-gate and Bishop-gate, but not in such good maner as it now doth, for all these whole fields of Finsburie, from Hollow well to this place, was a wast and unprofitable ground a long time, so that in the raigne of Edward the second, it was let to farme for fourt Markes by the yeare: but in the yeare 1415, the 3. yere of Hen ic the first, Thomas Falmer Mator, caused the wall of the Cittie to be broken toward this Pore, and builded here the posterns called Pore-gate so; the easse of the Citizens, to walk this way vpon causes (as was the) towards Fullington, Hogsdon, & such like. Moreover, he caused the ditches of the Cittie, from Shoreditch to Houndsditch, and so to this Pore ditch along by Bedlem to bee newe cast, and censed, by meane of wherof this Fen or Pore, was greatly drayned and dryed: so shortly after it grew such hard ground, that Raph Ioselin Mator for repaying the Cittie wall, caused this Pore to be searched for clay, & here in this place brick to be burnt.

Gent. But sir, here is stones set upright, what is the meaning of them?

Citz. Harry where they stand, runnes underneath the common shole, from a sping called dame Annes de Cleare called by the name of a rich London widow, called Annes Cleare, who matching her selfe with a riotous Courtier in the time of Edward the first, who vainely consumed all her wealth, and leauing her in much povertrie, there drowned she herself, being then but a shalow ditch or ranning water, since (which as I said before) runneth by sluices arched over, all along by these stones here standing: which sluices or bridges was made in the yere 1512, by Roger Archley Mator, who likewise caused the grounds to be leanelled, as they were this last yeare, by Sir Leonard Holliday Mator, and the other worshipfull Aldermen his brethren, whereby these fields were made something more

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more commodious, but not so pleasant and dry as now they are, for many times they stood still full of noisome waters, which afterward in the yeare 1527. was by the meanes of sir Thomas Semor, Mayor made dry, who repairing the sluices, conuayed the said waters ouer this Towne Ditch, into the course of Wall-brooke shoare, and so into the Thameſ, and by these degrēes was this Fen or Moore at length made maine and hard ground, which before being overgrowne with flags, sedges, and Rushes, serued for no ſe, ſince the which time, all the further and higher grounds beyond Finesbury court, haue beeſ ſo heightned with leaſtals and dung, that now threē windmills are ſet thereon, the ditches being ſilled vp, and the bridges ouerwhelmed.

Gen. But now I pray you let vs walke backe againe to Moore gate, & go into this narrow lane called the posterne, betweene Moore gate and Triple-gate, becauſe it hath at either end a doore to be ſhut in the night ſeasone.

Cit. This is a posterne belonging to Triple-gate ſo cal- led long before the conqueſt, only to kepe night-walkers out of the ſubberbs, but now I haue named Triple-gate, I thinke it not amifle to ſhew the antiquity thereof, and why it was ſo called at the firſt.

Gen. That would I gladly understand, ſo I haue heard diuers reports therof.

Cit. I haue read in the hiſtory of Edmond King of Eng- land, written by Iohn Lydgate. Nunke of Berry, that when the Danes ſpoiled part of his kingdome, a reverent bishep of this land, cauſed h̄ body of king Edmond, martyr to be brought from Edmonds bury to London, in at Trip- plegate, a place ſaith he ſo called of cripplers beggiſg ther, at which gate (it was ſaid) the body entering, Miracles were wrought, as ſome of the lame to goe away, p̄aſſing God: This Gate was ſometimes a Prison, whereunto ſuch Ciſtizenſ and others as were arrested for debt, or common trespasses, were committed, as they be-

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now to the Counters. This Gate was new builded by the Breweries of London. 1244.

Gent. This hath much contented my desires, and considering it is yet far, to night I will request you to turne back into the walkes, and there to discourse of further antiquities.

Ciuz. Withall my heart Sir, I cannot spend my time better.

Gent. Then I pray you tell what course (Sir) hath this common shoare thorough the Citty into the Thamse.

Ciuz. This Citty in old time, (as I finde it recorded) was deuided, the one halfe from the other, which is East from West, by a faire brooke of swete Water, which ran fro these fields thorough this wal into the river of thamse, which division to this day is maintained without charge, which water is called Wall-brooke. The course fro hence runneth directly first to Haint Margretis Church in Loath-bury from thence from the lower part of the Grocers hall, about the East of their Kitchin, vnder Haint Mildreds Church, somewhat West from the Stockes Market, from thence thorough Bucklers-bury, by a great House built of stone and Timber, called the old Barge, because in times past, Barges out of the Thamse were rowed vp so far into this brooke, on the backeside of the Houses on Wall-brooke streete, which streete taketh the name of this saide brooke: then by the west end of Haint Johns Church vpon Wall-brooke, vnder Ho;shoe bridge, by the West side of Tallow Chandlers Hall, and of the Skinners Hall, and so behinde the other houses to Elbow lane, and by a part thereof downe Greenwich lane, into the river of thamse, this is the right course of this water, which of olde time was bridged ouer in diuers places, for passage of Horses & men as need required: but since by y means of increase ment on the bankes thereof, much annoyances bee done therin. But at length the same by a common consent of this Citty, was arched ouer with Brick, and paued with stone

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Stone equall with the ground whence it passed thorough : and is now in most places builded vpon, that no man may deserve it, and therefore the trace thereof is hardly known to the common sort of people.

gen. Now I pray you let me know how this vante or Riu-  
er is made cleane, considering so much Channell durt  
runnes therein.

Citi. Wher those stones stand as I said before, there  
is a long hollow Cesterne or shoare arched ouer, reaching  
into the Citty, into the whiche once a yeare, as it is the  
custome of our Citty, to see it made cleane, there entereth  
diners labouring men, with Lanks and Torchis lighted,  
with a Taber and a pipe, & other such Mellody, that the  
Merchants, whose Cloutes and Housies of offices stand  
ouer, may hear them, and by such meanes they may know  
what is amisse, and wanteth mending, and still when  
this busnes is effecting, the owners of those houses spare  
not so; cost, which they giue downe at the Grates as they  
passe along.

Gent. This is a gwd order, and an incouragement to  
such an intricate busnesse, but to let that passe, and shew  
me the antiquity of your Aldermens going to the Ser-  
mons to the Spittle, neare Hoxeditch in Easter wike,  
which in my mind is a most memorabile custome.

Citi. First to shew you the first antiquity thereof, that  
place was in times past an Hospitall, commonly called  
Saint Mary Spittle, builded by Water Browne, Deane  
of Paules, in the yere 1197. first named by him *Domus  
Dei*, but at the suppression of Abies being surrendred to  
King Henry the eight, it was valued to bee worth ycerely  
478. pound, wherin was found (besides the ornaments  
of the Church) and other goods be longing to the Hospital,  
a hundred and fourscore Beds well furnished for the re-  
ceate of pore people, for it was an Hospital of great re-  
leefe : but now touching the custome why thre Sermons  
be made there in the thre Holydayes of Easter wike, I  
finde

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Sinde that in the yeare 1398. King Richard having procured from Rome confirmation of such Statutes & ordinances as were made in the Parliament, begun at Wellminster, and ended at Shrewsbury, he caused the same confirmation to bee read and pronounced at Paules Crose, and at Saint Mary Spittle in the Sermions, before al the people : Philip Malpas, one of the Shreves in the year 1439. gaue twenty shillings by the yere, to the thre Preachers at the Spittle. Steuen Foster Mayor in the yeare 1454. gaue forty poundes to the Preachers at the Spittle and Paules Crose : I find also that the said house wherein the Mayor and Aldermen doe sit at the Spittle, was builded for that purpose of the goods, and by the executors of Richard Rawson Alderman, and Isabell his wife in the years 1488. Likewise in the yeare 1595. the Pulpit being olde, was taken downe, and a new set vp, the Preachers face turned toward the South, which was before towards the West : Also a large House on the East side of the said Pulpit, was then builded for the gouernours and Children of Christes Hospitall to sit in, and this was done of the goods of William Elkins, Alderman lately deceased, but within the first yeare the same house decaying, and like to haue fallen, was againe with great cost repaired at the Citties charge.

And now heere is to bee noted, that time out of mind, it hath bene, and is a lawdable custome in London, that on god Frvday in the afternoone, some especiall learned man, by appoyntment of the Bishops, haue Preached a Sermon at Paules Crose treating of Christes passion : and vpon the thre next Easter Hollydaies, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the like learned men, by the like appoyntment, haue used to preach on the forenoones at the saide Spittle, to the same effect, and then on low sunday, one other learned man at Paules Crose, to make rehersal of those four former Sermons, either commending or repreising them, as to hym by the iudgement of the

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the learned Deuines was thought convenient, and that done, he was to make a sermon of his owne study, which in all were five Sermons in one. At these Sermons so severally preached, the Mayo; with his brethen the Aldermen are accustomed to be present, in their violet gownes at Paules, on god Fryday, & in their Scarlet gownes at the Spittle upon Monday, and Tuesday, on the Wednesday in their violets, and on Lewsunday in their Scarlets againe at Paules Crosse, which is vsed to this day.

Gen. These are lawdable customes, but haue your Aldermen no place to sit in at the Spittle, if it should chance to raine.

Cit. There is provided for the Mayo;, Aldermen and Scherisses, a faire house of two stories hie to sit in, and in the loft ouer them, where the Bishoppe of London, and other Prelates wets wont to sit, now stand the Ladies and Aldermens Wives in a faire window, where they may likewise sit at their pleasure. And this is all the antiquity, that I euer read of the Spittle Sermons. And now (sir) considering the tediousnes of this my long discourse, I will reviue you with a few verses, wch in the hono; of London.

## Londons Description.

That famous off-spring of downe rased Troy,  
King Brus the Conqueror, of Giants fell,  
Built London first, these mansion Towers of ioy,  
As all the spacious world may witnesse well,  
Euen he it was, whose glory more to vaunt,  
From burned Troy, sur-named this Troynouant.

This name, if that antiquities prove true,  
Full many yeares in Maiesty she bore,  
Till princely Lud did christen her anew,  
And changd her name, from that it was before,

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So kingly Lud did shape a second frame,  
And calld this Ludis Towne by his princely name.  
Luds-towne it was, and yet is termed so,  
But that for briefnesse, and for pleasant sound,  
Few letters of that name it doth forgoe,  
And London now, which was once called Luds-Towne,  
Titus Brute, and Lud, Londona parents were,  
Since fosserd vp by many a roiall peere.

But since that time, fwe conquests haue infewd,  
And al fwe one, beéne glutted with red goare,  
Yet were were Londona arters with blood imbrewd:  
Yet still remaing the stately hold before,  
Such was her beauty, and the victors pitty,  
That spard their swords, from spoylng this faire Citty.

From her first founders, thus hath she increased,  
Fauord of those, the Diadem aduanced;  
Scarce with their deaths, their large diuisions ceased,  
Yet by their deaths, her better fortunes chanced,  
As one gaue place, and left what he intended,  
The next successor what he found amended.

One famous King, this Citty doth indew,  
With wised freedomes, and innimicities;  
The next confirmes, augmenting it with new,  
And grauntis more large and ample liberties,  
And thus faire Londons members strongly knitteth,  
When Kings adorne what fame and honor fitteth.

From Lud vnto King James, thus London fared,  
Sacred Monarcke, Emperour of the West,  
To whom the world yeeldes none to be compared,  
By Londons loue thou art heere earthly blest,  
Mirror of mankind, each lands admiration,

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The worlds wonder, heauen's true contemplation.

Long mayst thou liue faire Londons wished blisse,  
Long mayst thou raigne great Britaines happinelle,  
Liue, raigne, and be when there no being is,  
Triumphant ouer all that wish thee Jessle,  
In earth ador'd with glorie and renowne,  
In heauen adorned with an Angels crowne.

Of Londons pride I will not boast vpon,  
Her gold, her siluer, and her orwaments,  
Her Gems and Iewels, pearles, and precious stome,  
Her furniture, and rich habilliments,  
Her cloth of siluer, tissue, and of gold,  
Which in her shoppes men dayly may behold.

What mynes of gold the Indian soyle doth nourish,  
Within the secrets of her fruitfull wombe,  
London partakes it, and doth dayly flourish,  
Ordayn'd thereto by heauen, and heavenly doome:  
All forraine Lands whome maiestie doth moue,  
Doe still contend to grace her with their loue.

What Ciuell, Spaine, or Portugale affordeth,  
What Fraunce, what Flaunders, or what Germanie,  
What Creer, what Scicile, or what Naples hoordeth,  
The Coasts of Turkie, or of Barberie,  
The boundlesse Seas to London walles presenteth,  
Through whichall Englands state she much augetheth.

If Rome by Tiber substance doth attaine,  
Or Euphrates to Babylon brings plente,  
If golden Ganges Egypt fils with gaine,  
The Thames of London surely is not empie,  
Her flowing channell powreth forth much profit,  
For Londons good, y<sup>e</sup>as few knowes what comes of it.

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Thus by the bouny of imperious mindes,  
Furthered by nature with a noble floud,  
Proud wealth, and welshy pride, brave London findes,  
Nor wants she not, that bringes her gaine and good,  
Within her walles there lyeth close concealed,  
That wealth, by tonges can hardly be reuealed.

London hath likewise fourte tearmes of law most fit,  
The fourte fould years in equall parts deuide,  
In which the Judges of the law do sit,  
Depending matters iustly to decide:  
The poore mans plaint, and eke the rich mans cause,  
And sentence giuen by righteous dooming lawes.

First of the fourte, fresh spring doth intertwaine,  
The second is, in sweating summer plast,  
The third, With windy haruest doth remaine,  
And freezing Winter, doth delight the last,  
When these times come, and Courts of law vnlocke,  
Tis strange to marke how men to London flocke.

These be the Bees, by which my being is,  
England the Orchard, London is the Hiuie,  
Their toyle, her triumph, and their fruit her blisse,  
When most they labour, London most doth thriue,  
The lofty Courtyor, and the Country Clowne,  
By their expence, brings London rich renowne.

And thus from all fides doth much substance flow,  
By Thames, by tearmes, by Sea, and by the Land,  
So rich a masse, whole kingdomes connot shew,  
In this estate faire London still doth stand,  
Fourte-piller, tearmes, and Thames be the fift,  
Which tane away, then farewell Londons thrif.

Gen. By these verses Sir, you haue highly honored your  
City,

## of Moore fields.

city, and no doubt but therin haue bin many worthy Citizens which hath thus brought her glorie to this height.

Clo. The City of it selfe hit, is the most Noble, populous, and richest in all the Land, for it is most glorious in manhode, furnished with munitions, insomuch as in the troublesome time of King Stephen, (when it was not halfe so popu'ous) it hath shewed at a Hustar, twenty thousand armed Horse-men, and threescore thousand foote men, seruicable for the Wars. Moreover, the Citizens hereof, wheresoeuer they become, bee regarded before all other Citizens, both for civilitie of manners, attire, company, and talke. The Women, or rather Matrons of this Citie, resemble the verie modest Sabine Ladies of Italy.

Gent. Now, I pray you sir, discourse the gallant minds of some of your Citizens in times past, for I haue seene many records of them, and such as bee most memorabile.

Henric Picard Maior, 1357. did in one day sumptuously feast at his owne charge 4 Kings, 3 Princes, and one Queen: which was, Edward the third King of England, John King of Fraunce, David King of Scots, & the King of Cypresse, then all in England: the blacke Prince, his Princess, and the Dolphin Prince of France, with many other noble men, and kept his Hall open for all commers to revell and dice in.

John Barnes Maior, 1371, gane a Chest with thre locks and a Thousand Markes therein to the Citie, to be lent to young men vpon sufficient suertie, or vpon pawne.

John Philpot Maior 1378, hirered at his owne charge 1000 Soldiers, to defend the Land from the incursion of the enemie, so in shourt time his hirered men tooke many sea Rovers with fifteen Spanish Ships laden with great riches.

William Walworth Maior, 1381, most valiantly with his owne hands slew the Rebell Wat Tyler, for which he was knighted in the field, and the bloody Dagger giuen to Londons armes, to his great honour and praise.

## The pleasant walkes

Richard Whittington thre times Maior in the yeare 1421, began the Schoole of Christis Church in London, he builded Whittington Colledge, with Almes houses for 13 poore men, and diuine lectures to be read there for euer, he repaired Saint Bartholmewes Hospitall in Smith-field, he glazed and paved part of Guild-hall, hee builded the West gate of London called Newgate.

John Allen Mercer, Maior of London, one of the Counsell to King Henrie the Eight, he deceased 1544, and he was buried at Saint Thomas of Achart in a faire chappel by him builded, he gave to the Citie of London a rich coller of gold, to be worn by the Lord Maior for euer: hee gave 500. li. to be a stock for Sea coale for the Citie, his Lands purchased of the King, the rent thereof to be givene to the poore in the wards of London for euer. He gaue besides to prisons, hospitals, lazer-houses, and all other poore in the Citie, or two miles about verie liberally too long to be recited.

Sir Thomas Gresham Mercer 1466, builded the Royal Exchange in London, and by his testament, left his dwelling house in Bishops-gate Streets, to be a place for readings of the seuen liberall Sciences, allowing large stipends to the readers, and certaine Almes houses for the poore.

Thus haue I made a briefe of some of our worthy Citizens, and their charitable actions, some done in their liues, the rest left to their executors, I haue heard some of them hardly (or never) performed, wherefore I wish men to make their owne hands their executors, and their eyes their Diversers, not forgetting this old and true prouerbs,

Women be forgetfull, children be vnkinde,  
Executors coueteous, and take what they finde:  
If any one aske where the Legaies became:  
They answer, so God helpe me, he died a poore man.

There

## The pleasant walkes

There is now living one Master Doue a Marchant-taylor, having many yeares considered this old p;overbe, hath therefore established in his life time to twelue aged men Marchant-taylors 6 pounds 2 shillings, to each yeresly for euer; he hath also giuen them gownes of good brode cloth, lined throughout with bayes, and are to receive at euerie thre yeres end the like gownes for euer. He likewise in charitie at Saint Sepulchres Church without Newgate, allowes y great bell on evry execution day to be tolled till the condemned prisoners haue suffered death, & also a small hand-bell to be rung at midnight vnder newgate the night after their condemnation, and the next morning at the Church wall, with a prayer to be sayd touching their saluation, and for the maintayning thereof, he hath giuen to Saint Sepulchers a certaine summs of money for euer.

Gent. This is my minde, it is a charitable devotion, and deserues eternall praise, I haue much beene delighted not only in these your walkes, but also in your pleasant discourses, which now we are forced to end, by reason of the night drawing on.

Therefore I humbly  
take my leue.

FINIS.

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